THIS STORY IS FICTIONAL, AND COMPLETELY UNRELATED TO REAL PEOPLE, GROUPS, OR EVENTS

I AM TERRIBLY SORRY.
MY UNDERLINGS DID NOT ANTICIPATE TENHOU'S AID.
THAT'S WELL ENOUGH.
FULITARO YUKIMURA VERSUS GENROUSAI SUGITA...
WELL THEN, THE FIRST BOUT IN THE SECOND ROUND WILL BE...

MangaBox
THE FUN IS ONLY JUST BEGINNING.

WHAT DO YOU MEAN...?
GENROUSAI SUGITA KILLED YOUR FATHER, LORD FUUTARO ...?
IT WAS...
9 YEARS AGO...

MEIJI 10, 1877.
FEBRUARY.
KAGOSHIMA.
DO YOUR BEST!!
FATHER, BIG BROTHER!!
FUUTARO YUKIMURA, 7 YEARS OLD.
IF WE HURRY, WE'LL GET TO TABARUZAKA...
...WITHIN TWO DAYS AND MEET UP QUICKLY WITH LORD SAIGOU'S ARMY
YOU'RE A FOOL
!
ASAJIRO YUKIMURA, 42 YEARS OLD. FUUTARO'S FATHER.
THE SATSUMA ARMY IS THE STRONGEST IN JAPAN. WE WON'T LOSE TO THOSE DAMN LOYALISTS
JUST LEAVE IT TO US!

THE IMPERIAL ARMY IS STRONG.
UNDER-ESTIMATING THEM WILL BACKFIRE ON YOU.
THE LOYALIST ARMY WEARS WOOLEN UNIFORMS AND LEATHER BOOTS, MAKING THEM STRONG AGAINST WATER AND RAIN.
THEY POSSESS SNIDER RIFLES WHICH CAN EVEN FIRE IN THE RAIN.
KOTARO YUKIMURA, 20 YEARS OLD. FUUTARO'S BROTHER.

GA HA HA
カ はは
AW JEEZ, KOTARO, GET FIRED UP, C'MON.
YOU'RE A SATSUMA, AREN'T YA?
WE WON'T LOSE!!

FATHER... I WISH I COULD HELP, TOO...!
IF YOUR SWORD BREAKS, GRAB YOUR ENEMY'S!
IF YOU HAVE NO SWORD, USE YOUR FIST!
THAT'S HOW A SATSUMA FIGHTS!
WELL, WE BETTER GET GOING, KOTARO!
YES.
!
DEAR KOTARO...
YEAH...
DON'T PUSH YOURSELF TOO HARD EITHER, YAE.
YAE YUKIMURA, 38 YEARS OLD. FUUTARO'S MOTHER.
PLEASE TAKE CARE.

Shwip
FUU-TARO.
!
PAFF
BUT NOW YOU CAN HAVE IT.
IT'S MY IMPOR-TANT TREA-SURE.
THIS IS THE FIRST GUARD I EVER USED WHEN I WAS A KID.
THIS ...

YOU'RE GONNA HAVE TO FIGHT ONE OF THESE DAYS, TOO, FUUTARO.
YOU GOTTA GET STRONG BEFORE THAT DAY COMES.

YES...!
PROTECT YOUR MOM...
...WHILE I'M GONE, OKAY?
!
...?
AND, WHILE MY FATHER AND BROTHER WERE GONE...
MY SICKLY MOTHER AND I STAYED AT THE HOME OF OUR NEIGHBORS, THE OTOH FAMILY.

IN 1877, IN THE LAND OF KYUSHU...
...TAKAMORI SAIGO LED A REBELLION OF SAMURAI AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT.
THIS WAR WAS LATER CALLED THE SATSUMA REBEL-LION...
IT WAS THE LAST JAPANESE CIVIL WAR.
FUUTARO YUKI-MURA'S FATHER AND BROTHER TOOK PART...
...IN THE BATTLE OF TABARU-ZAKA.
IT LASTED FROM MARCH 4TH TO MARCH 20TH. 17 DAYS OF FIGHTING, DAY AND NIGHT.

THE BATTLE OF TABARU-ZAKA BROKE THE SATSUMA REBELS.

THE IMPERIAL ARMY SHOWED THEIR OVER-WHELMING MILITARY POWER OVER THEM.

THOUGH IT IS SAID THAT THE TWO SIDES DID NOT HAVE THAT LARGE OF A DIFFERENCE IN THEIR MILITARY POWER.

THIS BATTLE WAS THE IMPERIAL ARMY'S CHANCE TO SLOW THE MOMENTUM OF SAIGO'S ARMY, AND SUPPRESS THE REBELLION AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE.

THE SATSUMA LOST..?!
TAKUMA OTOH.
TAKUMI OTOH.
TAKUMI ...!! TAKUMA ...!!
TABARU-ZAKA FELL...
AND THEN THE SATSUMA ARMY WAS DESTROYED ...
TO OUR GREAT SHAME WE SURVIVED BUT... OUR COMRADES...

MY FATHER AND BROTHER ...?
LORD ASAJIRO YUKIMURA ...
...HAS FALLEN.

MY BROTHER ...?
HE WAS SEPARATED FROM THE MAIN BODY OF THE ARMY WHICH WE AND LORD ASAJIRO WERE WITH.
HE WAS WITH A PATROL TEAM.
AFTER WE TOOK THE FIRST THRUST OF THE IMPERIAL ARMY'S ATTACK, WE LOST TRACK...
AAAAAHHH!!
BUT HE, TOO, IS LIKELY...
...NO LONGER ALIVE.

AT THE BEGINNING OF APRIL, AN UNSEASONABLE SNOW BEGAN TO FALL.
AND THAT DAY...
WH... WHAT IS ALL THIS?
WHAT IS IT? IT'S THE DEED TO YOUR HOME AND LANDS.
THE PAPERWORK IS ALL HERE AND READY.
ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS SET YOUR SEAL TO IT AND IT WILL BE FORMAL.
IT HAS NOT BEEN CHEAP...
..KEEPING YOU TWO HERE, YOU KNOW.
YOU HAVE NO LEADER AND NO SUCCES
IT WOULD BE A WASTE TO LEAVE IT IDLE
B-BUT!!

N-
FUU-
TARO.
WHY DON'T YOU PLAY OUTSIDE FOR A MINUTE.
....
MO-
THER
...

KATNK
HEY-
!
WHAT'S THAT?
FATHER...
AAAAAAAH!
?!
MOTHER, WHAT'S ...?!
SHOOF

MO-
THER
!!

IT WASN'T US!
MOTHER!! MOTHER!!
...CUT HER OWN THROAT!
THAT WOMAN... JUST SUDDENLY...
IN ONE FELL SWOOP, I LOST MY FATHER, MY BROTHER, AND MY MOTHER...
...AND THE HOME THAT I WAS BORN AND RAISED IN.

BUT...
...TRUE HELL STILL AWAITED ME.
To be Continued!!